

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Roy V. Leverenz et. al : Title: IMPROVED COATINGS
FOR CUTTING TOOLS
:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
January 8, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments in the above-identified application prior to examination of the application:

In the Claims:

Delete Claims 1 through 19 and 23 through 28. Claims 20 through 22 remain.

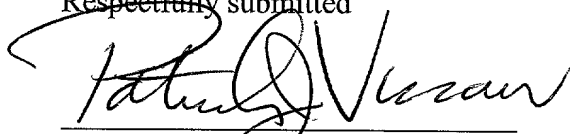
In the Specification:

On page 1, amend the Title of this application to read "METHOD OF COATING CUTTING TOOLS". On page 1, after Title, insert phrase "This is a divisional application of U.S. 09/467,936 filed December 21, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. 09/390,570, filed September 3, 1999 (now abandoned), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent 5,958,569 issued September 28, 1999".

REMARKS

The present invention is a Divisional Application of U.S. 09/467,936, filed December 21, 1999. It is respectfully submitted that the claims of the present invention, as amended herein, should be held patentable, and passage of the claims to allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any concerns after considering the present Preliminary Amendment, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted



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